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SOVIET AGRICULTURE RECEIVES NEW MACHINERY

NEW AGRICULTURAL MACHINES DEVELOPED -- Zarya Vostoka, No 151, 30 Jul 48

The past year was marked by great advances made in the designing and building of agricultural machinery. The Ministries of Agricultural Machine-Building Industry, State Farms, and the Food Industry tested 295 new agricultural machines.

The S-4 self-propelled combine is designed for the harvesting of grains, leguminous, and oil-bearing plants. One of these combines has already been sent to the Lagodekhi experimental and model MS. This self-propelled combine has a number of advantages over the drawn types. In this combine the cutting part (header) is located in front. The cut sheaves are shifted from the sides of the header to the center, from where they enter the thresher. This decreases the bulk of the combine, increases its maneuverability, and permits greater selectivity in harvesting and mowing. The self-propelled combine is operated by one man, whereas existing drawn combines must be operated by three men. Moreover, the new combine uses considerably less fuel since one motor drives the combine and operates the header and threshing machine, and also because the combine is made lighter by the use of rubber tires.

The combine is driven by the "Zis-5K" motor with automatic starter. The combine has six operating speeds between 1.7 and 8 kilometers per hour, and two speeds between 11 and 14 kilometers. The combine hopper holds 1,300 kilograms of grain. The combine handles up to 2.5 hectares per hour. In the mountainous regions of Georgia, the self-propelled combine promises to be an extremely useful and economic machine.

The "Rostsel'mash" and "Kommunar" Plants are starting to mass-produce the modernized Stalinetz-6 combine, which is equipped with a powerful motor. This combine has a device to collect the chaff which makes it possible to carry out the entire agricultural process, including harvesting with retention of the chaff, initial plowing under of the stubble, and subsequent deep plowing of the soil by the use of forward plowshares.

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The SPG-1 beet-harvesting combine has received favorable comment. This machine digs up the beets and at the same time cuts off the tops. The beets and tops are then placed in the roller or the bin. The combine is drawn by the Universal-2 tractor.

Two broad-swath mowers, the K-6 drawn mower, and the self-propelled KS-10, were recommended out of a group of hay-harvesting machines.

More than ten types of cotton-picking machines, as well as corn-harvesting and potato-digging machines were tested.

Georgian machinery designers have also contributed much toward mechanizing agriculture. A tung-oil refining machine designed by Osepashvili and Leshay, engineers, and a tea-pressing machine designed by Abzhandedze, engineer, have been built. Both machines were approved and are going into serial production.

Docent Shvatsobaya and Aspirant Dolidze have designed and built a machine to scatter fertilizer on tea plantations.

YEREVAN MOTOR-REPAIR PLANT MAKES MOBILE WORKSHOPS -- Kommunist, No 179, 30 Jul 48

The Yerevan Motor-Repair Plant (director, B. Araratyan), Ministry of Agriculture of the Armenian SSR has begun production of mobile workshops of the "A" type, mounted on trucks, to be used in MTS. Each workshop is equipped with a portable forge, a drilling machine, a one-ton rack press, jacks, and a kit of carpenter tools.

The plant has produced 40 of these mobile units. Ten of these are in use in the harvesting on the fields of Armenia, ten have been sent to the MTS of the Georgian SSR, and 20 to the MTS of the Azerbaydzhan SSR.

INNOVATION AT TBILISI AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY PLANT -- Zarya Vostoka, No 149, 27 Jul 48

The Tbilisi Agricultural Machinery Plant has developed a new method of speeding up the process of manufacturing cutters. The number of operations involved in producing a cutter was cut down from six to two and labor productivity rose rapidly. The forge shop began to produce from 800 to 900 cutters per month instead of the former 300.

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